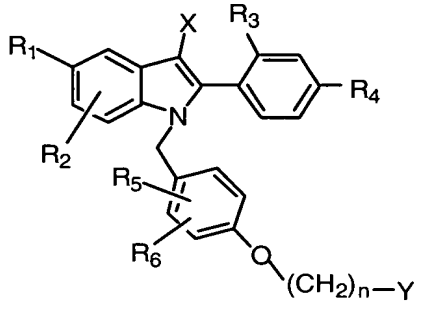
**Amendm nts to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

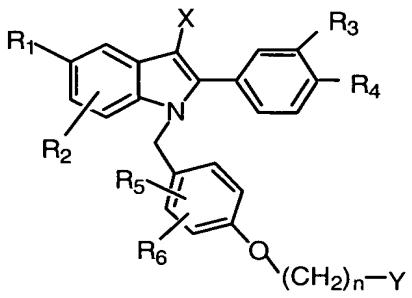
**Claims 1-107** (canceled).

**Claim 108** (new). A method of lowering cholesterol levels in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula I or II, having the structures




(I)

or




(II)

wherein:

$R_1$ is selected from H, OH or the $C_1$-$C_{12}$ esters (straight chain or branched) or $C_1$-$C_{12}$ (straight chain or branched or cyclic) alkyl ethers thereof, or halogens; or $C_1$-$C_4$ halogenated ethers including triflouromethyl ether and trichloromethyl ether.

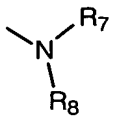
$R_2$, $R_3$, $R_4$, $R_5$, and $R_6$ are independently selected from H, OH or the $C_1$-$C_{12}$ esters (straight chain or branched) or $C_1$-$C_{12}$ alkyl ethers (straight chain or branched or cyclic) thereof, halogens, or $C_1$-$C_4$ halogenated ethers including triflouromethyl ether and trichloromethyl ether, cyano, $C_1$-$C_6$ alkyl (straight chain or branched), or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when $R_1$ is H, $R_2$ is not OH.

X is selected from H, $C_1$-$C_6$ alkyl, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, halogen;

n is 2 or 3;

Y is selected from:

a) the moiety:



wherein $R_7$ and $R_8$ are independently selected from the group of H, $C_1$-$C_6$ alkyl, or phenyl optionally substituted by CN, $C_1$-$C_6$ alkyl (straight chain or branched), $C_1$-$C_6$ alkoxy (straight chain or branched), halogen, -OH, $-CF_3$, or $-OCF_3$;

b) a five-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N($C_1C_4$ alkyl)-, -N=, and $-S(O)_m-$, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkyl, trihalomethyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, $C_1$-$C_4$ acyloxy, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylthio, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfinyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy ($C_1$-$C_4$)alkyl, $-CO_2H-$, -CN-, $-CONHR_1-$, $-NH_2-$, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylamino, di($C_1$-$C_4$)alkylamino, $-NHSO_2R_1-$, $-NHCOR_1-$, $-NO_2$, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 ($C_1$-$C_4$)alkyl;

c) a six-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N($C_1C_4$ alkyl)-, -N=, and $-S(O)_m-$, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkyl, trihalomethyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, $C_1$-$C_4$ acyloxy, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylthio, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfinyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy ($C_1$-$C_4$)alkyl, $-CO_2H-$, -CN-, $-CONHR_1-$, $-NH_2-$, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylamino, di($C_1$-$C_4$)alkylamino, $-NHSO_2R_1-$, $-NHCOR_1-$, $-NO_2$, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 ($C_1$-$C_4$)alkyl;

d) a seven-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N($C_1C_4$ alkyl)-, -N=, and $-S(O)_m-$, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkyl, trihalomethyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, $C_1$-$C_4$ acyloxy, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylthio, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfinyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy ($C_1$-$C_4$)alkyl, $-CO_2H-$, -CN-, $-CONHR_1-$, $-NH_2-$, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylamino, di($C_1$-$C_4$)alkylamino, $-NHSO_2R_1-$, $-NHCOR_1-$, $-NO_2$, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 ($C_1$-$C_4$)alkyl;; or

e) a bicyclic heterocycle containing from 6-12 carbon atoms either bridged or fused and containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N($C_1C_4$ alkyl)-, and -$S(O)_m$-, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkyl, trihalomethyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, $C_1$-$C_4$ acyloxy, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylthio, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfinyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy ($C_1$-$C_4$)alkyl, -$CO_2$H-, -CN-, -$CONHR_1$-, -$NH_2$-, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylamino, di($C_1$-$C_4$)alkylamino, -$NHSO_2R_1$-, -$NHCOR_1$-, -$NO_2$, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 ($C_1$-$C_4$) alkyl;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

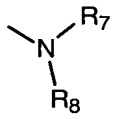
**Claim 109** (new). The method according to Claim 108 wherein:

$R_1$ is selected from H, OH or the $C_1$-$C_4$ esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen;

$R_2$, $R_3$, $R_4$, $R_5$, and $R_6$ are independently selected from H, OH or the $C_1$-$C_4$ esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen, cyano, $C_1$-$C_6$ alkyl, or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when $R_1$ is H, $R_2$ is not OH;

X is selected from H, $C_1$-$C_6$ alkyl, cyano, nitro, triflouromethyl, halogen;

Y is the moiety



;

$R_7$ and $R_8$ are selected independently from H, $C_1$-$C_6$ alkyl, or combined by -($CH_2$)p-, wherein p is an integer of from 2 to 6, so as to form a ring, the ring being optionally substituted by up to three substituents selected from the group of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkyl, trihalomethyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylthio, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfinyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy ($C_1$-$C_4$)alkyl, -$CO_2$H, -CN, -$CONH(C_1$-$C_4$), -$NH_2$, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylamino, di($C_1$-$C_4$)alkylamino, -$NHSO_2(C_1$-$C_4$), -$NHCO(C_1$-$C_4$), and -$NO_2$;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

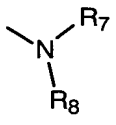
**Claim 110** (new). The method according to Claim 108 wherein:

$R_1$ is OH;

$R_2$, $R_3$, $R_4$, $R_5$, and $R_6$ are independently selected from H, OH or the $C_1$-$C_4$ esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen, cyano, $C_1$-$C_6$ alkyl, or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when $R_1$ is H, $R_2$ is not OH;

X is selected from the group of Cl, $NO_2$, CN, $CF_3$, or $CH_3$;

Y is the moiety




; and

$R_7$ and $R_8$ are concatenated together as $-(CH_2)_r-$, wherein r is an integer of from 4 to 6, to form a ring optionally substituted by up to three subsituents selected from the group of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkyl, trihalomethyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylthio, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfinyl, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy ($C_1$-$C_4$)alkyl, $-CO_2H$, -CN, $-CONH(C_1$-$C_4)$, $-NH_2$, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkylamino, $di(C_1$-$C_4)$alkylamino, $-NHSO_2(C_1$-$C_4)$, $-NHCO(C_1$-$C_4)$, and $-NO_2$;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

**Claim 111** (new). The method according to Claim 108, wherein the compound is 1-[4-(2-azepan-1-yl-ethoxy)-benzyl]-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-3-methyl-1H-indol-5-ol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

**Claim 112** (new). The method according to Claim 108, wherein the compound is 2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-3-methyl-1-[4-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-benzyl]-1H-indol-5-ol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.